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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/656,615	09/05/2003	Frank Sterns	20040-1-0220	8018
26135	7590	03/11/2005	EXAMINER	
LOTT & FRIEDLAND, P.A. P.O. BOX 141098 CORAL GABLES, FL 33114-1098			DABNEY, PHYLES HA LARVINIA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2643	

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/656,615	Applicant(s) STERNS, FRANK	
	Examiner Phylesha L Dabney	Art Unit 2643	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/30/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the application filed on 05 September 2003 in which claims 1-23 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mule et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,754,852).

Regarding claim 1-2, 4-5, Mule teaches a loudspeaker assembly comprising: a loudspeaker baffle (70, 72, 74), the baffle being provided with at least one opening for audio wave output; and, at least one transducer (20, 22) mounted to the baffle such that the audio waves emanating from a mounted transducer avoid being distorted by the baffle.

Regarding claim 3, Mule teaches the assembly is provided with a natural wood appearance (col. 5 lines 16-50, col. 6 lines 45-60).

Regarding claims 6, 7, see the rejection of claims 1-2.

Regarding claims 8, 11, 16, 21, see the rejection of claim 3.

Regarding claims 9-10, 12, Mule teaches a loudspeaker assembly comprising: a loudspeaker baffle (70, 72, 74), the baffle being provided with at least one opening for audio wave output; a flange (80), the flange being recessed the same distance as the baffle's surface

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thickness; and, at least one transducer (20, 22) mounted to the baffle by the flange such that the audio waves emanating from a mounted transducer avoid being distorted by the baffle.

Regarding claim 13, 18, 22, 23, see the rejection of claim 5.

Regarding claims 14-15, 17, see the rejection of claims 9-10, 12.

Regarding claim 19-20, 22, Mule teaches teaches a loudspeaker assembly comprising: a loudspeaker baffle, the baffle (70, 72, 74) being provided with at least one opening for audio wave output; a grille frame (fig. 7), whereby the frame provides an interface for attaching the grille to the baffle; a flange (80), attached to the baffle; and, at least one transducer (20, 22) mounted to the baffle by the flange such that the audio waves emanating from a mounted transducer avoid being distorted by the baffle.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phylesha L Dabney whose telephone number is 703-306-5415. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8:30-4 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on 703-305-4708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

March 6, 2005

PLD


CURTIS KUNITZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600